

09/915,739

Abstract

Roller Element for Hardcopy Apparatus

A printer or other hardcopy apparatus comprises a pinch system (20) comprising a pinch
5 wheel (21) and a drive roller (23) in which the pinch wheel is arranged to contact a print
media at locations which move continuously transversely of the direction of media
advance. The surface of the pinch wheel may have raised portions (25, 26) extending
around the circumference of the roller element and forming continuous bands inclined to
the direction of media advance. In a modification, the bands form a helix (45, 46) at
10 each end of the pinch wheel. In a further modification a pinch member (51) comprises
two parallel rows of freely-rotatable ball bearings (52) in a holder (53), in which they
may be capable of a certain amount of lateral movement.

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